MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: That controls pests to a very large extent.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDHANAN NAIR: Are there many plantations now which are free from this pest.

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: There are some.

MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDHANAN NAIR: May I ask why some other remedy could not be found out?

MR. K. R. NARAYANA AIYAR: When a pest breaks out, the best way to bring it under control is to spray an insecticide which will eradicate it. Tobacco decoctions is formed very effective in checking the ravages of this particular pest *viz*, thrips.

Female Education.

424. * SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA (*Nominated*): With reference to the present arrangement under which female education in the State, except the primary branch, is under the control and guidance of a separate Inspectress of Girls' Schools assisted by an Assistant Inspectress, will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether Malayalam and Tamil Middle Schools, and High Schools, for girls are proposed to be taken out of the purview of the Chief Inspectress and Assistant Inspectress;

(*b*) if so, the reasons that weighed with the Government in proposing to effect such a change;

(*c*) whether the Statham Committee has made any recommendation for the introduction of such an arrangement; and

(*d*) whether the Government have considered that the purpose of efficient inspection will be effected by the change contemplated?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON (*Director of Public Instruction*):

(*a*) Malayalam and Tamil Middle Schools for Girls are proposed to be taken over from the control of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools and the Assistant Inspectress of Girls' Schools.

(*b*) For ensuring efficient inspection and control.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA: May I know the circumstances under which Government thought it desirable to introduce the present arrangement?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: It was a transition stage, and that stage is now over.

MR. K. P. KOCHUKORA THARAKAN: ആൺ പള്ളിക്കൂടങ്ങളിൽ പെൺകുട്ടികളെ ചേർക്കുന്നതെന്ന നിർബന്ധമുണ്ടോ?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: ചിലസ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ രക്ഷകർത്താക്കന്മാരുടെ അപേക്ഷപ്രകാരം അങ്ങനെയൊരു നിർബന്ധം വച്ചിട്ടുണ്ട്.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA: With reference to part (b); am I to take it that the inspection now going on is efficient?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: I am sorry to have to say it is not.

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SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA: May I ask whether Government have not declared it as their policy that, when other conditions are satisfied, sex will not be a disqualification even for high appointments?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Yes.

SRIMATI T. NARAYANI AMMA: May I ask how the honourable member will reconcile that policy of Government with the answer given here. "For ensuring efficient inspection and control"?

PRESIDENT: The suggestion is that you had indicated in that answer of yours that inspection was not efficient when a lady was doing the work.

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Far from it, My point is this. In my experience I have found that is what is stated in the Statham Committee Report also that inspection to be efficient must be carried out by people having local knowledge. That was why it was decided that each district should have a separate inspecting officer, instead of a single officer for the whole State.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know the date from which the present arrangement has been brought into effect?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: The arrrngement has not yet been brought into effect; it is only in correspondence.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know when the present arrangewas first introduced?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: As I said yesterday, about 30 years ago.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know the reasons which weighed with Government in introducing the present arrangement?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: As I said yesterday, I do not know what exactly were the reasons which weighed with the Government 30 years ago; but at that time, there was a craze for bifurcation of male and female education.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I ask whether such bifurcation was brought about as a result of any complaint made to Government?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: I have no records on the matter.

PRESIDENT: Generally speaking, except in Travancore and Malabar, it is practically impossible to have men and women educated in the same institution. Is it not?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Yes, Sir.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Will there not be practical difficulty in Inspectors effectively inspecting girl's schools?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: I cannot imagine any practical difficulty in the matter.

MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Is there any real impossibilty in appointing ladies as Divisional Inspectors?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: None at all.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Is it not a fact that more than 60 per cent of our school-going girls are studying in boys' schools?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: That is a fact.

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